

**3.9. Electing Optional Civilian Medical Care.**

3.9.1. Active Duty Air Force members must notify the servicing MTF within three days of treatment when receiving civilian medical care at his/her own expense (i.e., in such cases specified in AFI 41-101, paragraph 1.4.). Collect information on the nature of the ailment or illness, treatment received or recommended and any drugs or medication prescribed, and file it in the outpatient medical record.

3.9.2. Ordinary leave for lost time may be required in accordance with AFI 36-3003, *Military Leave Program*. Note: If a member elects childbirth from civilian sources at her own expense (hospitalization or home delivery), she must take ordinary leave to cover any period of time lost from duty before delivery. The attending provider recommends convalescent leave in accordance with AFI's 36-3003 and 44-102.

3.9.3. Active duty members must arrange for the civilian medical facility to send a summary of treatment to the servicing MTF.

3.9.4. Approved organ donors hospitalized in civilian facilities will be considered administrative inpatients. Convalescent leave may be granted by the patient's commander in accordance with AFI 36-3003.

**Chapter 6****SURGICAL SERVICES PRODUCT LINE*****Section 6A—Performing Surgical Procedures***

**6.2. Elective Surgery.** Elective surgery, performed at the member's expense, is prohibited without prior written approval of the member's squadron commander and the MTF/CC. This permission must be obtained prior to any non-refundable deposits (for surgery, airline tickets, etc) being made; the potential for lost deposits will not be factored into the decision. The mission, unit manning status, potential for complications, and effect on upcoming deployments or PCS moves will be considered on an individual basis. In addition, elective surgeries within six months of separation or retirement must have additional prior approval by HQ AFPC/DPAMM, as required IAW AFI 48-123, para 5.5.4.

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**Table 2. Convalescent Leave Requests.**

<b>R U L E</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>
	<b>If member</b>	<b>and</b>	<b>then the unit commander unless otherwise specified</b>
<b>8</b>	elected medical procedure at own expense	Air Force physician previously determined member did not require the medical procedure	cannot approve.  <b>COMMENT:</b> Members take ordinary leave to cover the period of absence. The period of absence includes the time actually spent as an inpatient in a civilian hospital and any convalescent period deemed necessary by the attending physician.

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6.1.6. Elective Surgery or Treatment. Prior to any elective treatment by the Military Health Services System (MHSS), a Service member must consult with a competent military medical authority. A Service member who elects to have such treatment done at his or her own expense will not be eligible for compensation under the provisions of this Instruction for any adverse residuals resulting from the elected treatment, unless it can be shown that such election was reasonable or resulted from a significant impairment of judgment that is the product of a ratable medical condition. A record of the counseling will be made by the Health Benefits Advisor or other designated individual to document that the member was counseled about the elective treatment and his or her subsequent ineligibility for disability compensation for any adverse residuals incurred secondary to the elective treatment.